

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FOR NEA/RA AND IO/OIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CENTO AORG ABUD

SUBJECT: CENTO SECRETARIAT REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

1. THE CENTO SECRETARIAT HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS TO THE CURRENT BUDGET:

A. THE SECRETARIAT HAS REQUESTED MEMBER COUNTRIES' APPROVAL FOR CORRECTION OF AN OVERSIGHT IN THE 1975-76 BUDGET. THAT BUDGET FAILED TO INCLUDE POUNDS 2,433 FOR PAYING THE AUXILIARY STAFF OF THE COMBINED MILITARY PLANNING STAFF (CMPS) BENEFITS COMPARABLE TO THOSE AUTHORIZED AND BUDGETED FOR OTHER CENTO SECRETARIAT AUXILIARY STAFF EMPLOYEES. (NOTE: THESE BENEFITS CONSIST OF A SALARY INCREASE OF 15 PERCENT AND A CHILDREN'S ALLOWANCE INCREASE FROM 50 TO 250 TURKISH LIRA. THE TERM "AUXILIARY STAFF" REFERS TO LOCALLY HIRED EMPLOYEES.) THE SECRETARIAT REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO PAY THIS INCREASE TO CMPS AUXILIARY STAFF BY USING SAVINGS FROM THE 1973-74 FINANCIAL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF POUNDS 2,433. WE HAVE OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THIS REQUEST:

(1) THE DECISION TO PAY INCREASED BENEFITS TO THE SECRETARIAT'S AUXILIARY STAFF WAS MADE BY THE BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION
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COMMITTEE (BAC) APPROXIMATELY SEVEN MONTHS AFTER THE SUBMISSION OF

CMPS BUDET, TOO LATE FOR INCLUSION OF COMPARABLE FUNDING IN THE 75/76 CMPS BUDGET.

(2) NEITHER THE SECRETARIAT NOR THE CMPS IS PERMITTED TO SUBMIT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS. THERE ARE NO OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS FOR ITEMS THAT ARISE AFTER THE BUDGET HAS BEEN APPROVED, OTHER THAN TO USE PRIOR YEARS' SAVINGS, AS HAS BEEN THE PRACTICE.

(3) THE TOTAL INCREASE IN THE 1975-76 CENTO BUDGET WOULD BE POUNDS 2,433 IF THIS INCREASE IN BENEFITS FOR THE CMPS AUXILIARY STAFF WERE APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED.

B. THE SECRETARIAT HAS ALSO REQUESTED THE BAC TO RESUME CONSIDERATION OF RETROACTIVE PAYMENT OF THE EMPLOYEES' SHARE OF THE SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEME INTRODUCED BY THE SECRETARIAT IN 1971. (SEE BAC/71/R10, PARAS 11 TO 26, AND BAC/71/R11, PARAS 5 TO 14.) IN 1974 THE BAC HAD AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES THAT THE EMPLOYEES' CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR OWN NATIONAL SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEME RETROACTIVELY TO THE BEGINNING OF THEIR SERVICE WITH THE SECRETARIAT UP TO A MAXIMUM OF TEN YEARS FOR ALL DIRECTLY RECRUITED STAFF IN THE SERVICE OF THE SECRETARIAT ON 31 MARCH 1970, WHO ARE WILLING TO PAY THE CORRESPONDING EMPLOYEE'S CONTRIBUTION (SEE BAC/74/D27 AND BAC/74/R9, PARAS 4 TO 6). ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE REQUIRED NOW BECAUSE OF A CHANGE IN TURKISH LAW WHICH MAKES MORE EMPLOYEES (NINE) ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SCHEME. THE TOTAL COST IN THE CURRENT BUDGET WOULD BE POUNDS 2,783.12. THE FUNDS ARE REQUESTED FROM THE 73/74 FINANCIAL YEAR SAVINGS AS THE 1972/73 SAVINGS HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS (SEE PARA A(2) ABOVE).

2. WE HAVE WITHHELD PASSING THESE REQUESTS TO THE DEPARTMENT UNTIL THE SECRETARIAT COULD ASSURE US THA THERE WOULD BE NO MORE SUCH REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING. THE SECRETARIAT NOW HAS SO ASSURED US. WE RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF BOTH REQUESTS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOT, UK, GOI AND GOP HAVE ALREADY GIVEN THEIR APPROVAL.
MACOMBER

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